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OUR INVESTIGATION  
WILL NO LONGER  
BE CARRIED OUT  
BEHIND CLOSED  
DOORS.

# Solo Leveling

ART: DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)  
Original Novel: Chugong  
story - h-goon

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BECAUSE THIS RECENT  
INCIDENT COST THE U.S.  
GOVERNMENT A NATIONAL  
LEVEL HUNTER,

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BECAUSE THIS RECENT  
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THEY'LL DO  
WHATEVER IT TAKES  
TO CAPTURE THE  
CULPRIT.



WE AT THE FEDERAL  
BUREAU WOULD LIKE  
TO MAINTAIN A GOOD  
RELATIONSHIP WITH  
YOU, MR. SUNG.

THAT'S WHY  
I CAME TO GIVE YOU A  
HEADS-UP BEFORE THE  
INVESTIGATION GOES  
PUBLIC.

I, I'M SURE YOU WOULD  
HAVE BEEN SHOCKED IF  
YOUR FATHER'S FACE HAD  
POPPED UP DURING THE  
CONFERENCE.





THE INTERNATIONAL GUILD  
CONFERENCE...



...IS AN IMPORTANT EVENT WHERE  
REPRESENTATIVE GUILDS FROM  
EACH COUNTRY ARE INVITED TO  
DISCUSS THE CURRENT TRENDS  
AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF  
THE HUNTER INDUSTRY.

A FEW DAYS  
LATER, THE FEDERAL  
BUREAU OF HUNTERS  
RELEASED THE LIST OF  
INVITED GUILDS...

U.S.A.	Scavenger Guild	Thom
Mexico	Sicario Guild	Alon
South Korea	Ahjin Guild	Sung
Italy	Ira et Vitae Guild	Fabio

...AND THE AHJIN  
GUILD WAS SELECTED  
TO REPRESENT SOUTH  
KOREA THIS YEAR.

THEIR PARTICIPATION  
MADE HEADLINES BOTH  
AT HOME AND ABROAD.

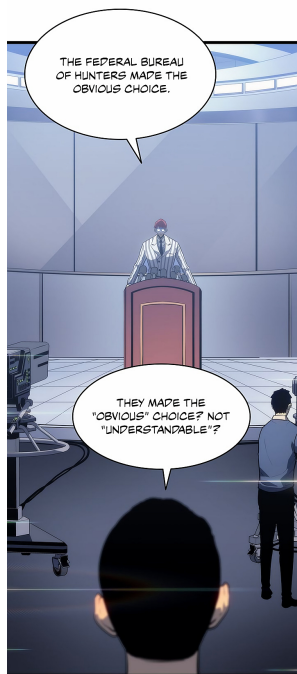


AHJIN'S ONLY  
TOP-RANKING HUNTER WAS  
SUNG JINWOO, THE GUILD  
MASTER,

SO THE FEDERAL BUREAU'S  
DECISION TO INVITE THEM WAS  
BASICALLY AN OFFICIAL SEAL OF  
APPROVAL. THEY HAD RECOGNIZED  
THAT SUNG JINWOO ALONE...

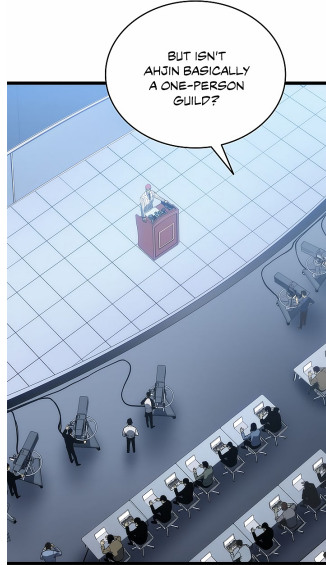
...WAS STRONG  
ENOUGH TO RIVAL ALL  
THE OTHER GUILDS  
WITH TOP-NOTCH  
HUNTERS.





YES. I BELIEVE IT  
WAS THE OBVIOUS  
CHOICE.







IF WE DEFINE A GUILD  
MEMBER AS SOMEONE  
WHO BELONGS TO A GUILD  
AND CAN BE MOBILIZED  
FOR BATTLE,

THEN SUNG JINWOO  
ALREADY HAS HUNDREDS  
OF GUILD MEMBERS.



AS SOMEONE WHO HAS  
WITNESSED HIS CAPABILITIES  
FIRSTHAND ON SEVERAL  
DIFFERENT OCCASIONS,  
INCLUDING DURING THE JEJU  
ISLAND INCIDENT...

I BELIEVE THE AHJIN  
GUILD WOULD GIVE ANY  
GUILD IN THE WORLD  
A RUN FOR THEIR  
MONEY.

STILL,  
THE HUNTERS GUILD HAS  
ALWAYS REPRESENTED SOUTH  
KOREA AT THE INTERNATIONAL  
GUILD CONFERENCE.

IT'S GOT  
TO STING  
A BIT.



OF COURSE I'M  
DISAPPOINTED THAT OUR  
TRIP TO THE STATES FELL  
THROUGH. I EVEN HAD MY  
PASSPORT RENEWED.

BUT I FEEL  
MORE PROUD THAN  
DISAPPOINTED.

WE NOW HAVE A HUNTER WHO  
WON'T HESITATE TO TAKE THE  
FRONT LINES IF WE EVER COME  
FACE TO FACE WITH A BEAST  
WE CAN'T HANDLE.



IN FACT, MY GUILD  
MEMBERS AND I ONLY  
MADE IT BACK ALIVE  
BECAUSE OF SUNG  
JINWOO'S HELP.

SO I'M GENUINELY  
PROUD HE WAS CHOSEN  
AS SOUTH KOREA'S  
REPRESENTATIVE.





IT'S BEEN FOUR DAYS SINCE SUNG JINWOO GOT BACK FROM JAPAN. THE GATE THAT SPAWNED IN SUSEO HASN'T APPEARED YET.

"DESTRUCTION" HASN'T SHOWN UP  
AT ANY GATES YET.

ALL THE MAJOR GUILDS  
ARE CELEBRATING...



...BUT I'M NOT LIKE  
BAEK YOONHO FROM THE  
WHITE TIGER GUILD, OR  
LIM TAE-GYU FROM THE  
FIEND GUILD.

AFTER ALL, JUMPING FOR JOY  
JUST BECAUSE AN APPLE FELL  
FROM A TREE MAKES US NO  
DIFFERENT FROM MONKEYS.

**BUT NOW THAT WE DON'T  
HAVE TO COMPETE WITH  
THE AHJIN GUILD, OUR  
PROFITS HAVE INCREASED  
BY 40 PERCENT!**



I FOUND  
ANOTHER  
MONKEY...

SORRY?

NEVER MIND.  
DOES THE ASSOCIATION  
KNOW ANYTHING?

BEFORE HIS RANK  
REEVALUATION, HE USED  
TO CLEAR THREE TO FOUR  
LOW-RANK GATES PER DAY;

AND AFTER BECOMING AN  
S-RANK, HE EVEN RAIDED  
GATES THAT HAD SPAWNED IN  
OTHER GUILDS' DISTRICTS.



THEN JUST RECENTLY, HE FLEW TO  
JAPAN TO SINGLE-HANDEDLY SHUT  
DOWN AN S-RANK DUNGEON BREAK.  
IT'S STRANGE THAT THERE'S BEEN  
NO MOVEMENT FROM HIM.

SOMEONE FROM CHINA  
REQUESTED INFORMATION  
ON SUNG JINWOO, SIR.





BUT WHY ARE THEY  
SHOWING A SUDDEN  
INTEREST IN SUNG  
JINWOO?



WE'VE MADE IT VERY  
CLEAR TO THEM THAT HE'S  
NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT  
OFFERS FROM OTHER  
COUNTRIES.

THE REQUEST WASN'T  
MADE BY THE CHINESE  
GOVERNMENT, SIR.



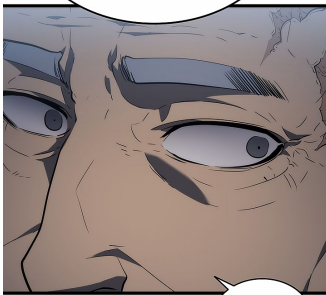
IT WAS FROM AN  
INDIVIDUAL..

AN INDIVIDUAL?

IT SEEMS CHINA'S  
SEVEN-STAR HUNTER,  
LIU ZHIGANG, HAS  
TAKEN AN INTEREST

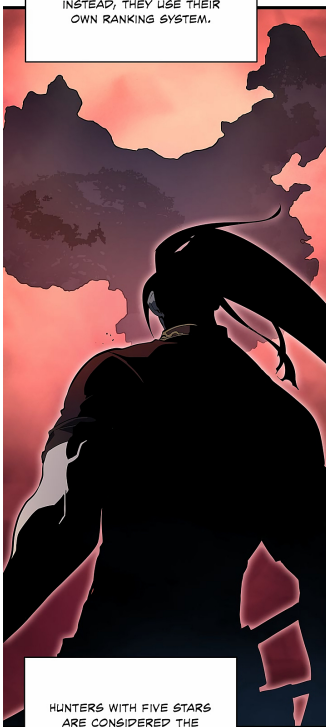


IN SUNG JINWOO.



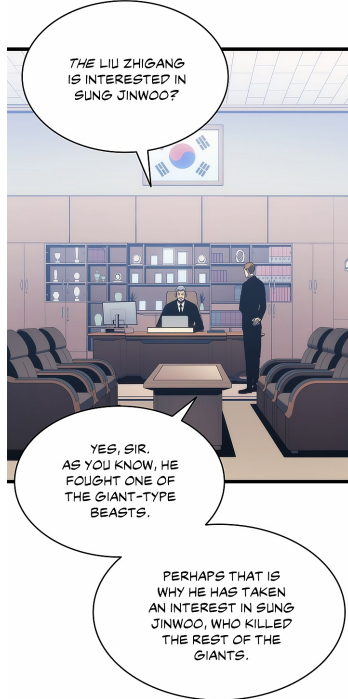
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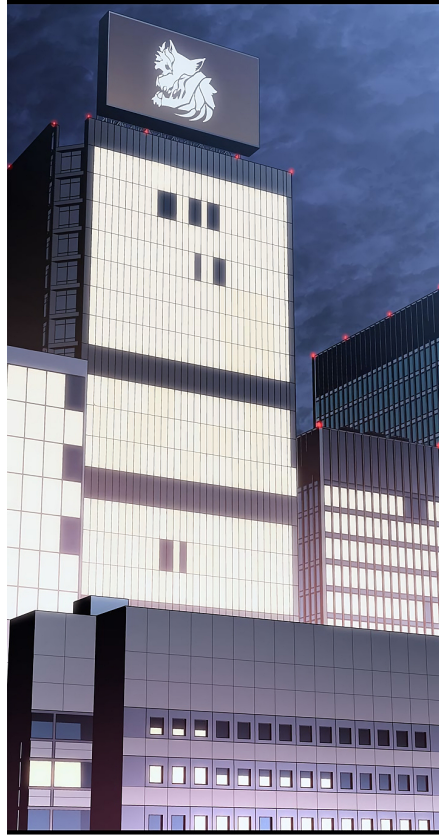
CHINA DOESN'T FOLLOW THE  
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD  
FOR RANKING HUNTERS.  
INSTEAD, THEY USE THEIR  
OWN RANKING SYSTEM.

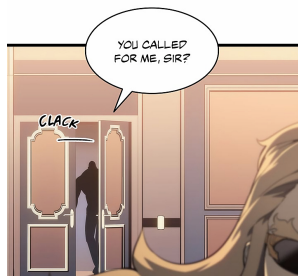
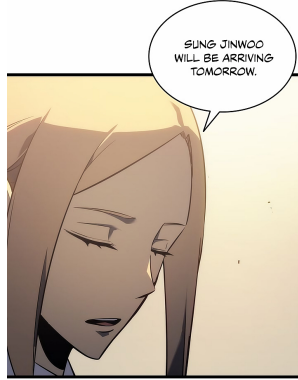


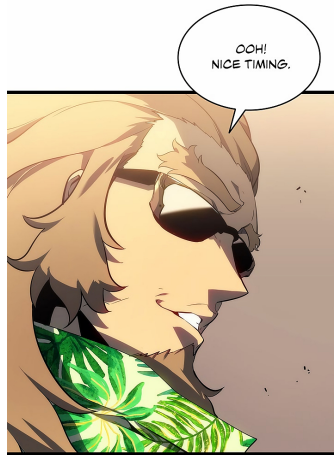
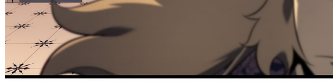
HUNTERS WITH FIVE STARS  
ARE CONSIDERED THE  
HIGHEST RANK, BUT...

...JUST ONE HUNTER,  
LIU ZHIGANG, WAS GIVEN  
A SEVEN-STAR RANK.

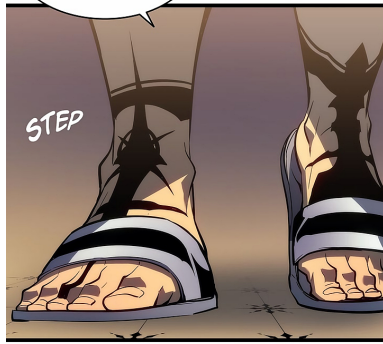






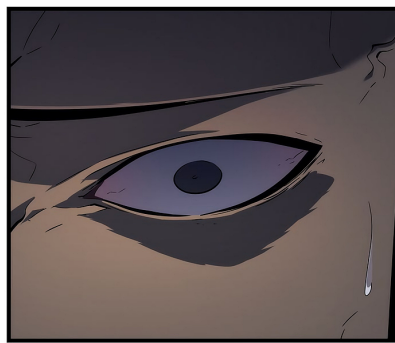
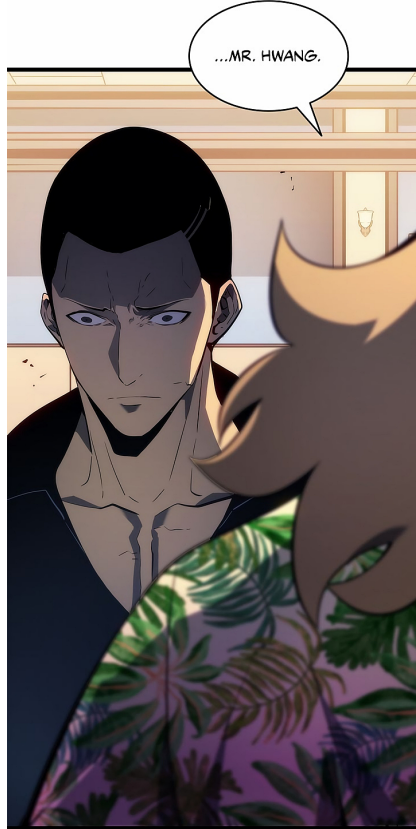


I'LL GET  
STRAIGHT TO  
THE POINT.



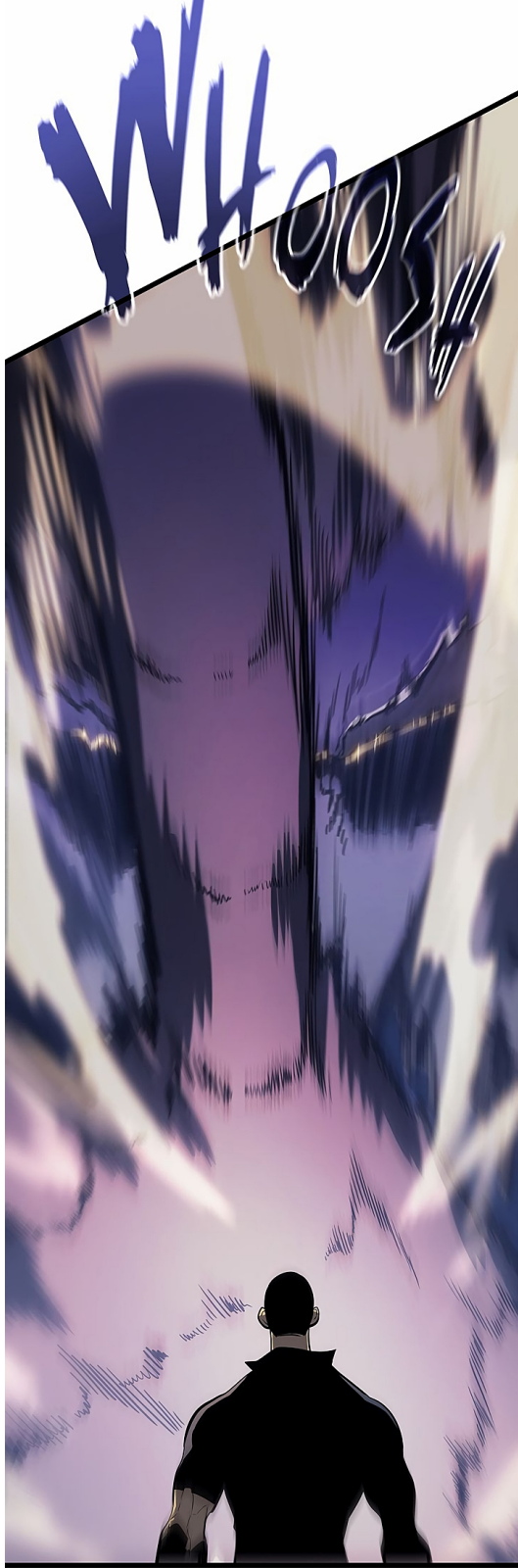
DON'T MESS  
WITH SUNG  
JINWO...

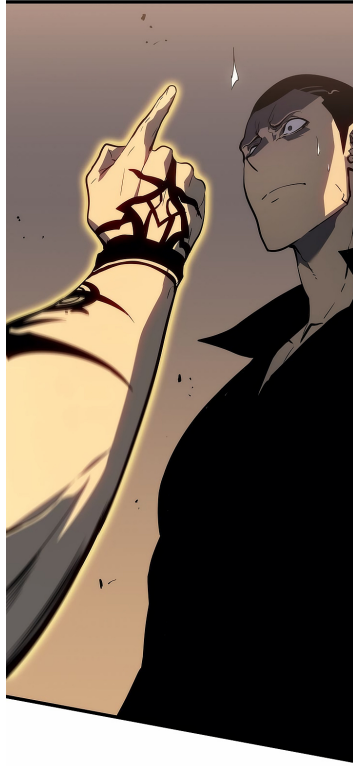




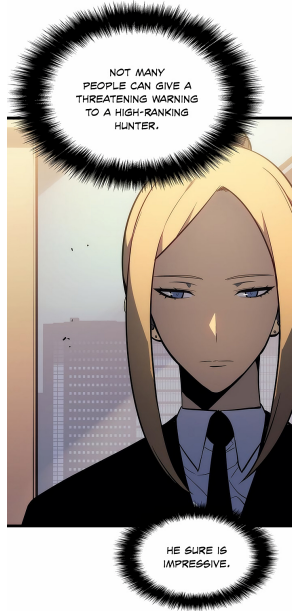














GO TAKE  
A VACATION AT THE  
GUILD'S VILLA DURING  
THE CONFERENCE OR  
SOMETHING.



SO WHAT DO YOU  
SAY? WILL YOU COMPLY  
WITH MY EARNEST  
REQUEST?

...

MR. HWANG?

...ALL RIGHT.

GOOD, YOU  
MAY LEAVE  
NOW.

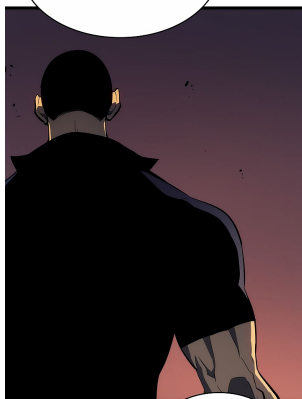
STEP



DO YOU  
THINK HE'LL  
LISTEN?

NO, HE'S  
NOT GOING TO  
LET GO THAT  
EASILY.

KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON  
MR. HWANG UNTIL SUNG  
JINWOO LEAVES THE  
STATES, LAURA.

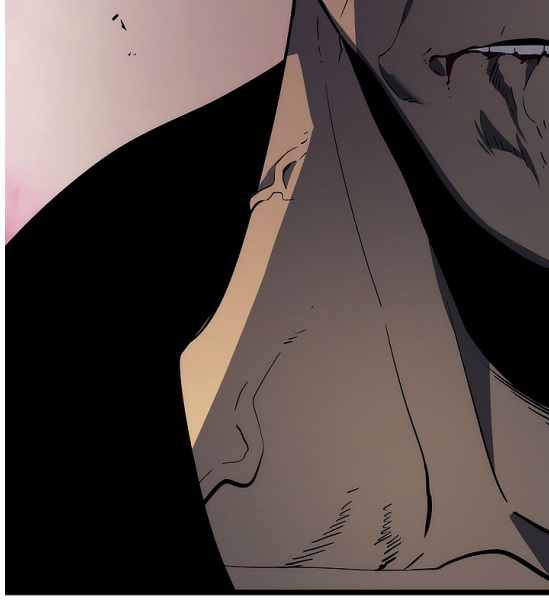


WILL HE...  
ACCEPT THAT?

WELL... I'M SURE  
HE'D RATHER BE A BIT  
FRUSTRATED THAN  
*FEAR.*







To Be Continued...

# Solo Leveling



Translator: JJoelle  
Editor: Michelle Kim